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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/782,014	02/19/2004	Sekena Chan	42P14581	4300

7590 08/25/2008  
Julia A. Hodge  
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Seventh Floor  
12400 Wilshire Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90025

EXAMINER
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SMITH, CAROLYN L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1631

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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08/25/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/782,014

**Applicant(s)**

CHAN ET AL.

**Examiner**

Carolyn L. Smith

**Art Unit**

1631

**Period for Reply** -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 June 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 8-16 and 18-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 8-16 and 18-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/S508)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicants' submission, filed 6/3/08, has been entered.

Amended claims 1, 6, 8, 10, 13, 18, 20, 21, and 24, filed 6/3/08, are acknowledged. It is noted that some of the status identifiers recite "amended", but should recite "previously presented".

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-16, and 18-24 are herein under examination.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-16, and 18-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chan (US 2002/0119455 A1).

Chan discloses a method of sequencing a polymer (abstract, 0025) by dividing a polymer sample into a number of polymer subsamples wherein there is a polymer subsample created for each monomer present in the polymer sample wherein only one monomer type in each

subsample is labeled and wherein both labeled and unlabeled instances of the one monomer type are incorporated (0036, 0264, 0265, 0278), sequentially separating each monomer from the polymer subsample (Figure 3, 0131, 0147, 0006, 0015, 0200, claim 122), detecting labels of each separated labeled monomer as a function of time (Figures 2, 3, 0205, 0271, 0274, 0277, 0313), constructing a time map for each monomer in each polymer subsample (Figure 3; 0277; claims 12, 18), and assembling the time maps into a polymer sequence (Figure 3, 0271, 0277, 0025), as stated in instant claim 1. Chan discloses the polymer is a nucleic acid, the monomer is a nucleotide, and the number of polymer samples and different monomer types is four (0277), as stated in instant claims 2, 14. Chan discloses subsample size of 100,000 (Figure 1, 0312), as stated in instant claims 3, 15. Chan discloses the labels are bulky groups (0036, claims 9, 125), as stated in instant claims 4, 16. Chan discloses attaching the polymer subsample to a surface (0207, 0033, 0101, 0206), as stated in instant claims 6, 18. Chan discloses the polymer is a nucleic acid and using exonuclease sequencing (0006, 0015, 0200), as stated in instant claim 8. Chan discloses detecting time between labels with a time-gated detection optical photodetector device (0213-0216, 0224, 0238-0241, 0088), as stated in instant claims 9, 10, 19, 20, 21. Chan discloses constructing monomer time maps of each polymer subsamples comprising analyzing the measured time by overlapping data analysis and frequency analysis to construct the time maps as well as assembling maps comprising minimum non-overlapping data analysis (Figure 3, 0025, 0131, 0278, 0073), as stated in instant claims 11, 12, 22, 23. Chan discloses a method of sequencing a polymer (abstract, 0025) by dividing a polymer sample into a number of polymer subsamples wherein there is a polymer subsample created for each monomer present in the polymer sample wherein only one monomer type in each subsample is labeled and wherein both

labeled and unlabeled instances of the one monomer type are incorporated (0036, 0264, 0265, 0278), moving an intact polymer across a detector (0033, 0205, 0271), measuring time between labeled monomers (0034, 0213), constructing a time map for each detected labeled monomer (Figure 3), repeating steps (Figure 3; 0277; claims 12, 18), and assembling the time maps into a polymer sequence (Figure 3, 0271, 0277, 0025), as stated in instant claim 13. Chan discloses at least one end of each nucleic acid is attached to a distinguishable label (0277), as stated in instant claim 24.

Thus, Chan anticipates the instant invention.

#### ***Additional Prior Art***

While not being used in the prior art rejection, US 2004/0248144 (Mir) is being put on the record which includes a plurality of nucleic acid molecules being attached to a solid substrate (0123, 0126), using time-gated detection and a temporal profile (0252, 0235) with optical detection and mapping (0236, 0469, 0682), and sequencing of linearised DNA (0425-0439).

#### ***Conclusion***

No claim is allowed.

Papers related to this application may be submitted to Technical Center 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Technical Center 1600 via the PTO Fax Center. The faxing of such papers must conform to the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1988), 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993), and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993)

(See 37 CFR §1.6(d)). The Central Fax Center number for official correspondence is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carolyn Smith, whose telephone number is (571) 272-0721. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 8 A.M. to 6:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marjorie Moran, can be reached on (571) 272-0720.

August 19, 2008

/Carolyn Smith/  
Primary Examiner  
AU 1631